

VISIT...

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MARVEL
LIMITED SERIES

4 of 5

CLAREMONT
CAFU
FERNÁNDEZ

X-MEN

DIE-BY-THE-SWORD



RATED A



\$2.99 US \$3.05 CAN

DIRECT EDITION

PROTECTOR OF THE BRITISH ISLES:



CAPTAIN BRITAIN



PETE WISDOM

**DAZZLER**

NOCTURNE

EXILES

PROTECTORS OF THE OMNIVERSE:



SABRETOOTH



PSYLOCHE



MYSTIO



FRIENDS AND FOES



MERLYN



TASPEERS



THE FURY



ROUGE-MORT



ROMA



SATURNYNE

Previously...

Chaos and disaster have descended on the **Starlight Citadel**, home to Celestial Guardian **Roma** and headquarters of her **Captain Britain Corps**, protectors of the OmniVerse. **Roma's** father, **Merlyn**, had created the Corps, but had gone mad, eventually forcing his daughter to overthrow him and take his place. Now he wants it back. To that end, he has gathered two allies, the mysterious **Rouge-Mort** with her band of **Janissaries**, and **James Jaspers**, onetime self-proclaimed OmniVersal Overlord. What none of them is aware of is that within the fabric of **Jaspers'** being is the essence of the creature that destroyed him, the **Fury**, quietly awaiting its opportunity to re-emerge and be reborn.

While **Rouge** was attacking and mortally wounding our **Captain Britain**, **Jaspers** began his assault on the **Citadel**. **Roma's** subordinate **Saturnyne** tried her utmost to destroy **Jaspers**, but failed. Now that struggle has been taken up by four of the Exiles – **Sabretooth**, **Blink**, **Morph** and **Thunderbird** – while **Pete Wisdom**, **Psylocke** and **Sage** proceed on a desperate mission of their own. Within the **Citadel**, **Rouge** makes her move against **Roma**, with **Dazzler** and **Longshot** out to stop her...

THE OBSERVATION ROOM OF
THE CRYSTAL PALACE...

THIS
GIRL'S A
QUICK
STUDY.

THE
GREATER
THE TALENT, THE
GREATER THE
RISK.

IT'S NOT
IN EITHER OF OUR
NATURES TO RUN
THINGS SAFE, MY
LOVE.

WHEN IS BORN THE NIGHTMARE!

by
Chris Claremont
& CAFU



IN HER WILDEST DREAMS—WHICH
TRUTH TO TELL, CAN GET PRETTY
WILD—CAT PRYDE NEVER
IMAGINED A PLACE LIKE THIS.

TECHNOLOGY
LIKE THIS.

VIEWS
LIKE THIS.

THE PROBLEM, SHE'S
DISCOVERING, IS NOT
THE SEEING OF THINGS...

...BUT FIGURING
OUT WHAT TO
DO NEXT.

AND HOPING
ALONG THE WAY,
YOU GET THINGS
RIGHT.

AND
THEREIN LIES THE
PROBLEM,
SWEETIE.

THIS ISN'T
A GAME.

NORBERTO FERNANDEZ INKER
WILFRIEDO GUINTANA COLORIST
SIMON BOWLAND LETTERER
JORDAN D. WHITE ASSISTANT EDITOR
MARK PANICCIA SENIOR EDITOR
JOE GUESADA EDITOR IN CHIEF
DAN BUCKLEY PUBLISHER





HER MAJESTY'S
ULTIMATE SECURITY PRISON.
CROSSMORE--

WAKEY-
WAKEY, MY
SON. TIME TO
GREET YOUR
FATE.

--AT THE MOMENT,
OCCUPIED BY JUST A
SINGLE INMATE--

SO,
WISDOM--
HAVE YOU
COME TO
KILL ME?

IS THAT
WHAT YOU
EXPECT,
ALBION?

IS
THAT WHAT
YOU'D
DO?

YES, TO BOTH.
ALTHOUGH...

"ALTHOUGH"?

I SUPPOSE I
EXPECTED DIFFERENT
FROM BRADDOCK.

SOMETHING--
BETTER.

BECAUSE
HE'S WEAK?

IF
BRADDOCK'S
WEAK, THEN
SO AM I.

WE
BUILD ON DIFFERENT
FOUNDATIONS. IS
ALL HE BELIEVES IN
THE BEST FROM
PEOPLE.

I--AM NOT SO
GENEROUS.

YOU TRIED
TO KILL MY
BROTHER.

BUT I
DIDN'T, AND I
LEARNED HE
WAS NOT MY
ENEMY.

IS THAT
WHAT YOU
CAME TO
HEAR?



POOR
LITTLE WOULD-BE
SONGBIRD....





SHE'S GOT THE **NUMBERS**, ALL. AND THESE **JANISSARIES** HAVE POWERS!

FIRST THING TO DO IS USE **FLASH-FLARES** TO CRIPPLE THEIR **SIGHT**.



DON'T **SLOW DOWN**. GIRL, DON'T GIVE THEM ANY CHANCE TO **REACT**.



AND ESPECIALLY DON'T HIT 'EM THE **SAME** WAY TWICE.



IMPROVISE. BE CREATIVE. AND ABOVE ALL...

...BE **REALLY, REALLY NASTY**.



DUNNO HOW LONG **SHOT** WOULD FEEL ABOUT THESE **TACTICS**...

...BUT **WISDOM**, HE'D LOVE THEM.





WHAT IS IT ABOUT ALISON? EVER SINCE I SAW HER...

...I CAN'T SEEM TO STOP THINKING ABOUT HER.

I CAN'T SHAKE THE FEELING SHE'S IN TROUBLE.

WE HAVE TO GET YOU SOMEWHERE SECURE.



I WISH I KNEW HOW MY CAPTAINS WERE FARING...

--LONGSHOT--
AMBUSH!

FROM WE JANISSARIES, WOMAN, AS FROM OUR MISTRESS...



...THERE IS NOWHERE YOU CAN HIDE.



ALI WOULD SAY SOMETHING FUNNY TO THAT.



THIS IS SO STRANGE. WHY WOULD I THINK OF HER...

...INSTEAD OF ONE OF MY FELLOW EXILES?



HOW IS IT I SEEM TO KNOW HER SO WELL?



...BUT YOUR DAY IS AT ITS END...

WHY ARE YOU SMILING?



AND RIGHT NOW, YOU JANNISSARIES ARE NEAR THE TOP OF THE LIST.





MEANWHILE, OUTSIDE THE CITADEL...



WHERE'S
YOUR SNAPPY
PATTER **NOW**,
LUMPKINS.
WHAT?



NO SHARP
REJOINDERS
TO OFFER ME--

--NOW THAT
THE WORM HAS
TURNED?



MORPH,
NO! OH,
NO!

STOP IT,
YOU MONSTER.
YOU DON'T NEED
TO DO THIS. LET
HIM GO!



DON'T
YOU WORRY, MY
PRECIOUS--

--YOUR
TURN WILL
COME
DIRECTLY.



YOU SHOULD
BE FLATTERED,
YOU KNOW.

I
ALWAYS SAVE
THE VERY BEST
FOR LAST.

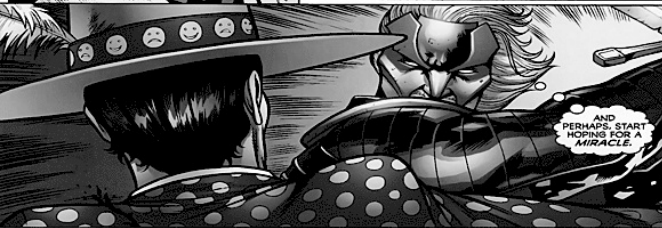


NOW,
REALLY, WHAT
KIND OF **DOT** DO
YOU TAKE ME FOR,
HMMH?

DID YOU
REALLY THINK
I WOULDN'T
NOTICE?

I'M NOT
COLOR-
BLIND,
Y'KNOW.





AND ON
THAT NOTE,
BACK TO
DAZZLER...

SHE'S VERY
GOOD...

...BUT I THINK,
RIGHT HERE AND
NOW, I'M
BETTER!

ALIP
ARE
YOU--SILLY
ME, FOR ASKING.
SILLY ME, FOR
WORRYING.

HE
CALLED MY
NAME...

...JUST LIKE
HE USED TO.

IT LOOKS
LIKE YOU'RE
DOING JUST
FINE.

DOES
THAT MEAN HE'S
STARTING TO
REMEMBER--

OH!

THIS CAN'T BE
HAPPENING.

IT ISN'T
FAIR.









THIS MORNING, THERE WERE MORE CAPTAINS. IT SEEMED, THAN THERE WERE STARS IN THE SKY--

--ONE FOR EVERY DIMENSION IN THE SIDERAL STRING.



NOW, THAT PROUD CORPS IS LITTLE MORE THAN A GHOST OF WHAT ONCE IT WAS.



WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

THIS IS NOT MY DOING!



AND IT TAKES BUT A MOMENT FOR THE "GHOSTS" OF METAPHOR...

...TO BECOME THOSE OF FACT.

I DIDN'T MEAN FOR THIS TO HAPPEN.



WHAT'S
HAPPENING
TO ME? WHY
CAN'T I STOP
IT?!

I'M JAMES
JASPERS--

--I'M
SUPPOSED TO
BE THE ONE IN
CONTROL!



NO NO
NO NO NO
NO NO!

NOT THAT,
ANYTHING BUT
THAT!



SOMEONE--
ANYONE--

--FOR THE LOVE OF
GOD--!



IT CAN'T
END LIKE THIS. IT
MUSTN'T!



THERE'S SO
MUCH I WANT
TO SEE--

--I
NEED TO
DO--

--CAN'T
YOU SAVE
ME--?





THAT'S THE
REAL THING.
ISN'T IT?

IT'S NOT
ONE OF JASPER'S
CONSTRUCTS.

YES,
MACQUILLAN.
THAT IS THE
FURY-PRIME.

WHO
KNOWS. YOU
KILLED IT
ONCE...



ANYBODY
GOT ANY BRIGHT
IDEAS?

MAKE
FRIENDS?

THAT'S
A NICE
THOUGHT,
MORPH.

BUT THE
FURY ISN'T
BUILT LIKE
THAT.

THIS CORPS
WAS FOUNDED
TO FULFILL A
DREAM.

HOWEVER
WE'VE CHANGED
SINCE THEN, AND
ON OCCASION
FALTERED...

...THAT PURPOSE
REMAINS:

TO PROTECT
THE INNOCENT AND
THE HELPLESS AGAINST
ALL FORMS OF
OPPRESSION.

THAT CREATURE
WOULD BRING ALL
EXISTENCE TO ITS
END.

AND
WE ARE ALL
THAT STANDS
AGAINST IT.

I CANNOT
SPEAK FOR
YOU...

...BUT THIS
IS THE BATTLE
I WAS BORN
TO FIGHT...

...AND TO
WIN!

TO BE
CONCLUDED!

Megan



Scans By Dizzy

THE MINUTEMEN